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BRITAIN/EMBASSY SHOOTING

JENNINGS: In Madrid today, an official at the Libyan Embassy there said Libyan nationals may be in Europe to liquidate enemies of the Libyan Republic. The Libyan people, he said, decide who gets liquidated, and it is done before the entire world. Well, it was anti-government Libyan demonstrators who were in the line of fire yesterday in London, and as our Pentagon correspondent, John McWethy, reports, the gunman who opened fire on them may have had some official encouragement.

MCWETHY: In the hours just before gunfire erupted, a U.S. spy satellite intercepted a radio message from Libya to its embassy in London. U.S. intelligence sources tell ABC News that the radio message, in essence, was ordering the embassy not to sit by passively while anti-Khadafy demonstrators marched outside but to use force in responding to their taunts. The U.S. government warned British authorities, but by the time Britain could respond, shots had already been fired. Today in Washington officials warned that the U.S. will now consider military actions against countries like Libya if there is hard information about an impending terrorist threat. GEORGE SHULTZ (Secretary of State): It is essential for us to take all of the defensive measures that we can, but I don't think that purely defensive posture is adequate.

MCWETHY: While Shultz was speaking, the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Saratoga, was steaming toward Libya from the western Mediterranean. Pentagon sources say though no decision has yet been made, there is a good chance the Saratoga will conduct flight operations near the disputed waters of the Gulf of Sidra, where two and a half years ago American carrier-based planes shot down two Libyan fighters who challenged them. John McWethy, ABC News, the Pentagon.

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Apparently Not Decoded Before Shooting

Libya Sent a Signal on Defense of Embassy

By Michael Getler
Washington Post Staff Writer

Several hours before a gunman in the Libyan Embassy in London opened fire on demonstrators and police last week, the Libyan government sent a coded radio message to the embassy ordering the staff to defend the building, fire on the demonstrators and create disturbances, including bombings, in public places, according to informed sources.

The sources said the government of radical ruler Muammar Qaddafi has sent many strident messages to its embassies, which the Libyans call "people's" bureaus, but that the one sent hours before the London shooting was particularly grim.

The message was intercepted by western electronic intelligence-gathering methods, the sources said. But it was apparently not decoded and translated in time to be distributed to British security authorities before the shooting began at midmorning on Tuesday, April 17.

A British policewoman was killed and 11 Libyan exiles among a crowd of 70 anti-Qaddafi demonstrators were wounded in the shooting. American specialists also said a bombing at London's Heathrow Airport three days later also was almost certainly linked to Qaddafi's agents.

Contrary to some newspaper and television reports here and in Britain, knowledgeable sources said the coded message was not intercepted by American intelligence and passed to the British. The Americans, these sources said, were not involved in the intelligence-gathering and received their information from the British after the shooting.

American specialists said the message and the subsequent shootings are part of an escalating campaign by Qaddafi to try to eliminate exiles opposed to his regime around the world. Qaddafi's campaign against dissidents abroad began four years ago and has spawned violence in several countries. In the last six months, however, Qaddafi has become "completely paranoid," one source said. "He is going after everybody," another said, adding that "Libya is going to be a big problem."

Qaddafi's campaign against the dissidents apparently is spurred by increasingly daring attempts on his life and a number of bombings in Libya, an American specialist said.

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■ *Britain deports reported representative of Qaddafi.* *Page A16*

Libya Sent Coded Signal On Defense of Embassy

MESSAGES, From A1

The Libyan dissident movement is growing, he added, and some dissidents have begun to slip back into Libya.

Last December, the military barracks where Qaddafi lives were hit by an explosion soon after 1,000 pounds of dynamite were reported stolen, the specialist said.

Britain has provided refuge for many of the thousands of Libyans who have gone into exile.

In March, U.S. sources said, London's Scotland Yard, acting on tips from Libyan dissidents, was successful in preventing terrorist incidents planned by the Libyan regime. But on March 10, two bombs exploded in London and Manchester, wounding some two dozen Arabs. Five Libyans

British authorities have noted some apparent similarities between these bombings and the Heathrow explosion last Friday. London has not accused Libyans of responsibility for the airport attack.

Officially, neither American nor British officials will comment on reports of the coded message intercept. British foreign ministry spokesmen have only said "no specific information which would lead us to believe that an incident of this kind would occur was in our hands before the incident itself."

Confirming that description, American officials said the intercepted message was not decoded and distributed in time. They said how fast this can be done is usually a function of the

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